

REMARKS

Please enter the amendments to the claims and to the specification. The claims amendments have been made to better define the invention, to remove any multiple dependent claims, and to bring the claims into conformance with US practice.

In amended claim 1, support for the step "b) conditioning the primarily oxidized material..." can be found on page 35, lines 28 through 34; page 37, lines 12 and 13; and page 49, line 18, issue 1 together with pages 50 and 51, issue 11.

New claim 12 has been drafted on the basis of the disclosure of the second section at page 37, line 32 to page 38, line 1. Original claims 2, 6, and 7 become new claims 13 through 17.

Subject matter of new claim 18 is disclosed at pages 50 and 51 as issues 8 and 12. Subject matter of new claim 19 is disclosed at page 37, lines 17 to 20 and 23 to 24. Original claims 3, 4, 8, and 9 become new claims 20 through 23. Original claim 5 becomes new claim 24.

Subject matter of new claim 25 is originally disclosed at pages 54 to 55 as issue 38. The basis for new claim 26 can be found at page 55 as issue 40. Subject matter of new claim 27 is originally disclosed at page 55, issues 42 and 43; subject matter of new claim 28 is originally disclosed at page 55 as issue 44.

As claim 29, original claim 11 has been reformulated based on the disclosure at page 56, issues 47 and 48. New claim 30 has been drafted based on the original disclosure at page 56 as issue 49.

The applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow all of the pending claims and pass the application to issue.

Should there remain unresolved issues the applicant respectfully request that Examiner telephone the applicant's attorney at 732-578-0103 so that those issues can be resolved as quickly as possible.

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Respectfully,
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